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'TIS THE SEASON

Santas Anonymous receives widespread support for their 2018 hamper campaign..... Page 5

SPORTS

The Atom Avalanche received an early Christmas gift: hosting the 2019 Atom Provincials in Elk Point..... Page 10

Elk Point Review

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Vol. 37 No. 51 Tuesday, December 18, 2018 $1.10 GST Included

Vicki Brooker photo

ELK POINT COMMUNITY CHOIR continued their long tradition of singing in the Christmas season at the Elk Point Arts and Leisure Centre on Friday night, with an excellent crowd enjoying the program of songs old and new, conducted by Udo Mueller and accompanied by Sheila Hatch at the piano. Rebecca Hatch is the new page turner for the group.

Musicians join singers in Choir Concert

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

They might be a little bit rusty, but eight St. Paul musicians and a young drummer who just joined the group for the evening provided a most enjoyable musical interlude to open the Elk Point Community Choir's annual Christmas Concert on Friday night.

Choir conductor Udo Mueller and pianist Sheila Hatch proved their musical skills on baritone and flute, respectively, as they joined Natalie Wild on flute, Kaitlin Tazzer on clarinet, Dorothy Wuola and David Holmberg on saxophones, Jeff Gate on French horn and Ken Frost on trumpet, backed up by Jordan Poirier on drums, for a series of four chorales, a medley of three French carols and 'Ding Dong Merrily on High; before switching the pace to 'While Walking in the Park One Day' and 'Jump, Jive and Wail.' The group calls themselves, 'The Rusty Musicians' and usually include Julie Germain, also on saxophone, in their eclectic mix at their weekly evening sessions at Glen Avon School.

Mueller and Hatch made a quick transition to their usual roles as their fellow members of the Community Choir filed onstage to start the concert with their traditional opening number, 'Just Let Me Sing.'

(Continued on Page 9)

F. G. Miller High's vice principal wins ASAA award

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

F. G. Miller's senior high boys' volleyball champions and the silver medal winning Lions are not Elk Point's only Alberta Schools' Athletic Association award winners for 2018. The new face in the ASAA spotlight is an individual that helped the Crusaders to earn the school's first 2A provincial banner.

FGM vice-principal Darcy Younghans is the recipient of the Lorne Wood Award, which is presented annually to the school administrator who actively models, promotes and supports sportsmanship by their involvement in their school's athletic program.

Nominated by FGM athletic director Jonathan Randall, Reanne Mudryk and Kari Sundt, Younghans accepted the award at the ASAA Planning Meeting banquet in Red Deer on Dec. 6.

Promotion of sportsmanship is definitely nothing new for Younghans, who has been involved in athletics for much of his teaching career, according to ASAA executive director John Paton, who is also a longtime friend and says the winner is "One of my favourite people. He's an excellent coach, wonderful with kids and instills in them the concept of good sportsmanship. When he was the athletic director at High Prairie and hosted several provincial tournaments, he created a sportsmanship pin bearing the words, 'Sportsmanship, Ethics, Integrity'," which was presented to the most sportsmanlike players in the tournaments.

"Fifteen years ago, we made that a province-wide thing, that the association gives out to schools hosting provincials. Darcy's idea will live on long after he retires." Paton said.

Younghans was previously the athletic director at F. G. Miller, before moving up to administration, and hiring Randall as his replacement in that position. Randall, who introduced Younghans at the banquet, said the award winner has been "instrumental in my development as a teacher. When I was hired, I was a bit intimidated, but he was always willing to help. Darcy is nothing short of amazing and has had a lot of accomplishments over the years.

(Continued on Page 3)

SCHOOL SPORTS SUPPORTER Darcy Younghans (left) accepts the prestigious ASAA Lorne Wood Award from colleague and SPAA president Jonathan Randall. Submitted photo

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EADRCRU join with Elk Point RCMP to arrest five in break and enter spree

RCMP ALBERTA
Review Contributor

On Dec. 6, the Eastern Alberta District Rural Crime Reduction Unit (EADRCRU) were deployed to St. Paul County to assist the Elk Point RCMP with investigating multiple break and enters that had been plaguing rural residents, particularly in the Laurier Lake area. Several tips were received from the public that assisted in the identification of vehicles used to commit the break and enters.

Later that evening, one of the suspect vehicles was involved in a break and enter in the Cold Lake area and then fled the scene while Cold Lake RCMP were investigating. The EADRCRU and Cold Lake Police Dog Services (PDS) located the suspect vehicle in Fishing Lake and were able to disable the suspect vehicle with spike belts. Five occupants fled on foot from the vehicle into the woods.

A 19-year-old female, who was in possession of a firearm and a 17-year-old female, both from Frog Lake, were arrested with the assistance of PDS.

The search for the remaining three occupants continued into the night, as members from the Cold Lake RCMP, "K" Division Special Tactical Operations (STO), and RCMP Integrated Traffic Unit (ITU) arrived in the area to assist. Two 17-year-old males from Fishing Lake were later located and arrested. The final outstanding male was located on the morning of Dec. 7, 2018 with the assistance of RCMP Air Services. The 17-year-old male from Elizabeth Metis Settlement was arrested and then transported to hospital by EMS due to exposure to cold temperatures. He was later released back into police custody.

"Coordination between the various RCMP Detachments and units was critical in the safe resolution of this incident" says Constable Guillaume Wilson (EADRCRU). "Had it not been for the ability of the RCMP helicopter to locate the final male suspect from the air things could have been a lot worse."

RCMP members continued collecting evidence and recovering stolen property following the apprehension of all suspects and found multiple stolen firearms that had been discarded by the fleeing suspects. A car and truck stolen from Kitscoty, an off-highway-vehicle stolen from Cold Lake and another truck stolen from Dewberry were also recovered by RCMP during this incident.

Two male youths from Fishing Lake, a male youth from Elizabeth Metis Settlement, and a female youth from Frog Lake, all 17 years of age, were charged with 82 offences, which include: flight from police, possession of property obtained by crime over $5,000, possession of a firearm obtained by the commission of an offence, resisting a peace officer, dangerous driving, unauthorized possession of a firearm, possession of a firearm when knowing its possession was unauthorized, breaking and entering, theft over $5,000, theft under $5,000 and mischief under $5,000

All the youths were also charged with breaching various conditions. Three had warrants pending at the time of their arrest stemming from incidents in Elk Point, Vegreville, and Edmonton. The youths remain in custody and are scheduled to appear in St. Paul Provincial Court on Dec. 13, 2018. Their names cannot be released due to the provisions of the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

The 19-year-old Frog Lake female was also charged with multiple offences, including: flight from police, three counts of possession of property obtained by crime over $5,000, four counts of possession of a firearm obtained by the commission of an offence, resisting a peace officer, dangerous driving, four counts of unauthorized possession of a firearm, four counts of possession of a firearm when knowing its possession was unauthorized, three counts of failing to comply with conditions, two counts of theft of motor vehicle, theft under $5,000, mischief under $5,000 and two counts of breaking and entering. She was also arrested for an outstanding warrant from Elk Point for multiple offences, including: failing to comply with a DNA order, flight from police, resisting a peace officer and mischief over $5,000. She was remanded into custody and was scheduled to appear in St. Paul Provincial Court on Dec. 13, 2018.

Two additional arrests made

During the intensive search, RCMP members also located two additional males, a 16-year-old from Onion Lake and a 15-year-old from Kehewin, who were unrelated to the break and enters, but were in possession of a firearm and wanted on outstanding warrants. They were arrested without incident.

A 16-year-old Onion Lake youth was charged with possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, possession of a prohibited firearm and possession of a prohibited firearm when knowing its possession was unauthorized. He was also arrested for his outstanding warrant from Elk Point for flight from police, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle and possession of property obtained by crime over $5,000.

A 15-year-old Kehewin youth from was charged with several offences, including possession of a firearm without holding a license, possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose, possession of a firearm knowing it its possession is unauthorized and multiple counts of failing to comply with conditions. He was also arrested for an outstanding warrant from Elk Point for possession of property obtained by crime over $5,000, flight from police, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle and failing to comply with conditions.

Both youths were released after a judicial hearing and are scheduled to appear in St. Paul Provincial Court on Dec. 20, 2018. Their names cannot be released due to the provisions of the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

The multitude of break and enters in the Laurier Lake and surrounding area are still being investigated and RCMP anticipate more charges will be laid.

Elk Point RCMP are asking the public's assistance with the ongoing investigation. If you observed a black Ford F-350 with red fender flares or a black Dodge Ram with a distinct loud exhaust in Laurier Lake or surrounding areas, please contact Elk Point RCMP at 780-724-3964 or your local police. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), online at www.P3Tips.com or by using the "P3 Tips" app available through the Apple App or Google Play Store."

Elk Point & District Ag. Society
Annual General Meeting
7 pm, Monday, Jan. 7, 2019
Horizon Room, A.G. Ross Arena
Contact: Margaret 780-210-0518 or margaretbayduza@gmail.com

ELK POINT
The Right Place To Be
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Will be Closed
Dec. 24, 25, 26, 2018 and Jan. 1, 2019

Elk Point Transfer Station
Closed December 25, 2018 and January 1, 2019
Open Dec. 27 & 29th from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Residential Garbage Pick-up
Wednesday, December 26 garbage pick-up will be moved to Thursday, December 27
Thursday, December 27 garbage pick-up will be moved to Friday, December 28

County of St. Paul No. 19

TAKE NOTICE that the following Development Permit has been issued in accordance with Land Use Bylaw No. 2013-50 of the County of St. Paul No. 19

PERMIT NO.	LOCATION	
18-D0133	N.E. 24-57-9-W4M Lot 2, Block 1, Plan 1622004	Public Utility Building & Installation; Addition to water treatment plant *Land Use District: Agricultural (A)* **Discretionary Use**

Any person claiming to be affected by the said Development, may appeal within fourteen (14) days of this advertisement, to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board by serving Notice of Appeal to the Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board of the

County of St. Paul No. 19
5015 - 49 Avenue
St. Paul, Alberta
T0A 3A4

The appeal letter must contain at least one reason for appeal and if the development permit is a permitted use under the land use bylaw, no appeal applies unless the provisions of the bylaw were relaxed, varied or misinterpreted in the decision of the Development Authority. The appeal fee is $200.00 (Refundable if appeal is successful).

December 18, 2018
Date

Chelsey Cartron
Development Authority Officer

EARLY DEADLINE
December 25th edition – Deadline of Wednesday, December 19th at 10:00 a.m.
January 2nd edition – Deadline of Thursday, December 27th at 10:00 a.m.

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Economic development tops town agenda

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

A request at the 2018 organizational meeting to put a renewed emphasis on economic development has led to the review and upgrading of the Economic Development Bylaw passed in March of 2012.

A motion at the Nov. 22 Economic Development Advisory Board meeting brought the updated bylaw, which required only minor changes to conform to the new Municipal Government Act, establishing and Economic Development Committee and defining its powers duties and responsibilities, to council for approval. The board is to have nine members, all with voting privileges, and the town's CAO, who will act as secretary, treasurer and resource person. As in the original document, the board will be made up of seven volunteers from Elk Point and surrounding area, plus one member from Elk Point town council and one member of the County of St. Paul council. The committee's chairperson and vice chair will be elected by the members at the ERC's organizational meeting each year, with all positions having a one-year term and no member serving more than two consecutive years in the same position.

The revised bylaw was given all three readings.

Council remuneration

Town council's remuneration policy was discussed at length, and it was agreed that the current monthly honorariums did not cover the amount lost by "changes we can't do anything about," Mayor Lorne Young said. The matter came up during budget meetings, and it was noted that the federal tax exemption for elected officials on one third of their honorariums will come to an end on Jan. 1, 2019. It was agreed to adjust the honorariums by $150 across the board, the mayor to now receive $750 per month, the deputy mayor and councillors $550 per month. Meeting per diems, mileage, meals and accommodation remunerations will remain unchanged.

Interim Budgets

The town's interim operating and capital budget, five-year capital plan and 20-year equipment replacement plans for public works and fire departments were brought forward, and approved with amendments on the operating budget, but did not approve a cost of living allowance (COLA) for all employees. The COLA has seen a steady decline over the past decade, except for 2013 when there was a salary grid change, and was 1.3 per cent in 2018. Council turned down a 1.25 per cent COLA for 2018 on a 3-2 margin in a recorded vote, with only the mayor and Coun. Dwayne Yaremkevich in favour.

Despite trimming expenses in every way possible and a projected slight increase in general municipal revenue, expenses are expected to increase by $44,983. Requisitions are expected to increase slightly and the use of reserves is also expected to rise.

"This is a fluid living document," Mayor Young noted, "but we want to be as accurate as we can."

What CAO Ken Gwozdz called "a strong capital budget" totaling more than $2.2 million, is largely covered by grants, he said, the mayor agreeing that the town's capital projects are very dependent on grants.

Intermunicipal Appeals

Council passed a recommendation to join with the County and Town of St. Paul and the Summer Village of Horseshoe Bay in forming an Intermunicipal Subdivision and Development Appeal Board. *(Continued on Page 12)*

Award

(Continued from Front Page)

"He's a positive influence to the students, greets them all every day and when he motivated me to host the 2A Girls Volleyball Provincials a few years ago, he helped me every step of the way."

"I'm very honored to be here," Younghans told his colleagues at the banquet. "It's nice to be back in a room with like thinkers who were interested in inter-school athletics and strong leadership. This organization will prevail."

In thanking his wife and two daughters for their role in his success, Younghans noted that his wife had asked him, "Why do you have to coach?"

"The answer lies in this room. We have the ability to connect with youth and guide them. That's why we coach."

Younghans said that after he hired Randall, "I made it clear that we were going to change the building. Our first meeting with the school staff didn't go well. One individual said, 'this building was not for athletics, it was made for learning'. This year when we won the 2A Volleyball, that individual came down and congratulated Mr. Randall."

It was Randall who got Younghans back into coaching, he said. "This April, he needed help with strategy for badminton."

The onetime ASAA badminton commissioner not only helped, he threw his heart into the project, and tore his Achilles tendon in the process, spending the rest of the term in a walking cast, but even that didn't dampen the renewed enthusiasm for a coaching role. This fall, for the first time ever, "I coached Junior High girls volleyball. Wow, that was an experience. I wanted them to be the best."

Younghans told his colleagues that in the change from athletic director to administration, he "learned that you need to be true to yourself and love your family. My wife and I are going to retire at the end of 2020."

In closing, he read an email he received from a mother of a player on the 2A Provincials host team, who not only praised the injured Nick Anderson for his perseverance, with "such heart and no ego. It was great to watch. The spirit of sport was live in the gym."

A few days after accepting the award, Younghans says, "It's a nice experience to be recognized provincially. I know there are a lot of worthy administrators all across Alberta."

"It's really nice to see Darcy honoured," FGM principal Colin Bjorkman says. "I think he enjoyed the experience and seeing the athletic directors from all over the province. He was on the ASAA board and was in charge of badminton, and was an athletic director in multiple divisions. He's been a mentor ever since Jon took the athletic director job, and under his wing, Jon has done phenomenally. Winning provincials is a huge feat, especially when we're about as small a 2A school as you can get. It's such a rarity to even participate in provincials, and it's far more difficult when you're a small school.

Bjorkman praised Younghans' "long career of being involved in athletics, it's sometimes a thankless job, and it's special to be recognized by your peers."

Editorial

Hang in there!

It's only seven more sleeps to Christmas. So much to do, so little time. How will we ever get everything finished?

That's what many of us are thinking, as we rush around doing the last minute things, possibly still looking for that last illusive gift that no store in northern Alberta has in stock, or wondering how to transport 24 cupcakes for your child's class to school safely. Is that concert costume going to look right, did we forget to invite someone to that holiday gathering?

One week to get it all done, but will anybody but us notice if it doesn't, if things aren't what we perceive as perfect? No, they won't. "Don't worry, be happy!"

All Is Bright....

Happy and safe holidays

The holidays are a great time to get together with family and friends. However, holiday traditions can involve some safety risks that may not be found at other times of the year. Health Canada reminds Canadians to follow these tips for a safe and happy holiday season.

Lights and lighted decorations

Use lights that have the mark of an accredited certification agency, such as CSA, cUL or cETL.

Light strings and other lighted decorations, such as wreaths and reindeer, are rated for either indoor or outdoor use. Ensure that indoor lights and decorations are used only inside. Read the instructions on the package and do not exceed the recommended wattage.

Check all light bulbs, light strings and cords. Replace broken or burned-out bulbs, and discard any light strings or cords that are frayed, or that have exposed wires or loose connections.

Turn off holiday lights, lighted decorations, pre-lit trees and decorations before you go to bed or leave your home.

Check the Healthy Canadians Recalls and Safety Alerts Database before buying or using seasonal lights, as some may have been recalled.

Trees and decorations

When buying a real tree, make sure it's fresh and water it daily.

Keep trees away from high traffic areas, heating vents, radiators, stoves, fireplaces and burning candles.

Choose tinsel, ornaments, artificial icicles and other trimmings made of plastic or non-leaded metals.

Don't let children put decorations in their mouths, as some may be easily swallowed and harmful to their health.

Keep metal, sharp or breakable tree ornaments, and those with small removable parts or button batteries, away from young children.

Toys and gifts

Toys can be recalled for health or safety reasons. Check the Healthy Canadians Recalls and Safety Alerts Database for more information about the latest recalls.

Buy age-appropriate toys. Toys for older children may contain small parts or other hazards that may make them unsafe for young children.

Read and follow the labels, warnings, safety messages and other instructions that come with a toy.

Purchase sturdy, well-made toys that come with contact information for the manufacturer or importer.

Ensure that batteries are properly installed by an adult and not accessible to children.

(Continued on Page 11)

Way Back When...

FGM forms PTA, Santa checks up, Christmas Chopsticks

Here's the news that made the headlines of the Lakeland Review and Elk Point Review for the week of Dec. 17 in...

1988

Nearly 100 parents, teachers and trustees gathered at F. G. Miller High School to lay the foundation for a parent-teacher association, new FGM principal Jim Hawkins noting that, "By working together, we can develop a really good situation and keep abreast of changes in the school and the community." A new category, 'Apartment Windows and Balconies,' was added to the chamber of commerce lighting and decorating contest.

1993

The annual Christmas Extravaganza set the stage for Christmas, with Santa checking out who had been naughty or nice, horse-drawn wagons taking capacity crowds for a ride around town, Boy Scouts selling trees and talented crafters offering unique gifts for sale, in addition to all the shopping specials of the evening. A reverse trade show, where entrepreneurs came to meet with industry, local governments and facility representatives, was a big success, with both suppliers and their potential customers finding the evening beneficial.

1998

What a night it was, as Elk Point kicked off the Christmas season with Extravaganza, where F. G. Miller High School band members played music by the bonfire, Ole Fedorus transported load after cheering load of passengers in his tractor-drawn wagon and Santa dispensed an endless procession of candy canes as he visited with the youngsters. Elk Point Community Choir heralded the season with a pair of concerts, with Kim Beardy, Laurie Keichinger, Shirley and Sarah Osinchuk donning their bathrobes and fuzzy slippers for a special presentation of "Christmas Chopsticks."

2003

There were four chairs and no waiting at Elk Point Fire Hall, as 23 men and two young ladies lost their locks to raise close to $10,000 in donations and pledges to assist five-year-old cancer victim Clarissa Gusnowski. The Town of Elk Point's new land use bylaw passed without opposition, with no written submissions or complainants coming forward at the public hearing.

2008

Representatives of six organizations, two province-owned tourist attractions and two municipalities met to lay the groundwork for a master plan for Elk Point's Iron Horse Trail staging area. The town considered an in-town recycling depot, with Coun. Dwayne Yaremkevich reporting that Bonnyville had purchased their own bins, with the contents picked up for recycling by Big Jim's Recycling Centre in Lac La Biche, which might also work for Elk Point.

2013

Riverland Recreational Trail Society president Marvin Bjornstad visited Elk Point Town Council to provide an update on the year's activities, reporting that Riverland marked 10 years of operation in 2013, and has spent approximately $1.5 million over that time on trail development.

ELK POINT COMMUNITY CHOIR paid tribute to Canadian legend Stompin' Tom Connors with their rendition of 'The Hockey Song', featuring Randall Krys as the referee.

The Elk Point Review publishes a variety of opinions as a contribution to debate on matters of public concern. Unsigned editorials express the view of this newspaper's editorial board which includes the Publisher and the Editor. Signed pieces express the view of the individual writer.

Elk Point Review

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Santas' many helpers pitch in with annual hamper campaign

TIGER POWER! ELK POINT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL gathered up a total of 21 boxes of canned food to be included in the hampers. Doris Pindroch makes the presentation to Diane Peifer and Susan Frisby.

JUST FOR MOMS - Wanda Cochrane of Wanda Lynn's Body Shoppe collected a basket full of gifts for the moms in the families receiving hampers.

SANTAS' HELPERS - Marcy Maltais and Jennifer Dallaire of Servus Credit Union handing over the items that collected on their "Tree of Warmth" to Susan Frisby for Santas Anonymous and the food bank, Dallaire commenting that, "Many families will be warmer and fed this year due to our members and their contributions."

4-H HELPS OUT SANTA - Elk Point's 4-H clubs joined forces with the Extravaganza Cow Bingo, and donated $$250 of the proceeds to Santas Anonymous, with Diane Peifer accepting the cheque from Nicole Bristow.

SCARECROW WINNINGS FOR SANTAS - Business winners of this October's Scarecrow Decorating Contest each chose a charity to receive their winnings. ATB Financial's Carla Ganske and Brianne Greening received their cheque from Elk Point Chamber of Commerce president Terri Hampson, left, and presented their $50 winnings to Diane Peifer of Community Lions of Elk Point for the Santas Anonymous campaign.

TREE OF WARMTH - Lions member Susan Frisby gratefully accepted the many donations on ATB's well dressed Tree of Warmth from Carla Ganske and Kelly Currey.

RR80 ARMISTICE ROAD

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NEW LISTING

Property Plus

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E4137806 $398,000

5301 RAVINE DRIVE, ELK POINT

4 bed/4pc renovated bath, bright kitchen with appliances, family room, flex area, and a large laundry/storage area with a 2pc bath. Laminate, shingles & exterior paint = upgrades. Oversized 26x36 dbl/heated/detached garage w/ concrete floor & workshop area. Quick possession.

E4133527 $238,000

5110 54A STREET, ELK POINT

1132 sqft 4 bed/2 bath, 4 level split, solid wood cabinetry, floors, railing and staircases. Kitchen reno with s/s appliances, granite countertops. Wall to wall wood fireplace, 2 complete bath renos, new windows and doors. Double garage, Quick possession.

E4124056 $375,000

7002 HWY 29, ELK POINT

126 ACRES

126 acres between Elk Point & St Paul. 1216 sqft 4 bed/4 bath raised bungalow with a walkout basement. New windows, flooring, paint, patio doors, HWT, and 2-tiered deck. 30x80 shop, 24x30 heated garage, barn and corrals.

E4125799 $399,000

56229 RR 55

20 ACRES

Located S.E. of Elk Point and close to the river. 2061sqft. 4 bed/3bath, features - kitchen reno, flooring, windows, siding, shingles, large addition with HW floors & vaulted ceiling, fireplace, wrap around aggregate patio, lease revenue.

E4121399 $499,900

PROPERTY PLUS REALTY

To all our family, friends, colleagues, customers, clients and everyone else too, we wish you a very Merry Christmas & a safe, healthy & Happy New Year.

Desiree Maas
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Very Merry

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
All The Best For 2019!
Lorne Young & Family
ELK POINT
ELK POINT MAYOR

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AND HAPPY NEW YEAR
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WRAPPING AND PACKING was a big job made easier by the numerous volunteers who helped the Community Lions fill the hampers.

Spirit of giving alive and well in Elk Point

COMMUNITY LIONS OF ELK POINT
Review Contributor

Santas Anonymous, with the help of generous donors, provided gifts and Christmas food hampers to 48 families in the Elk Point area this season. This number is about 10 per cent less than last year's 53.

Two hundred and twelve basic food bags were purchased by Co-op customers in the Good Buy to Hunger food drive, and were distributed with potatoes, carrots, Mandarin oranges and other items for a Christmas dinner, as well as a bag of flour and a bag of sugar to start some Christmas baking.

Children from birth to age 11 received toys and books, sorted and wrapped by volunteers in the two weeks before the December 15 distribution date. Teenagers received hoodies and personal items such as hair dryers or razors. Each family also received a game and toiletry items.

Santas Anonymous, coordinated by the Community Lions of Elk Point, is proud and humbled by the generosity of the community in giving to people in need. Recipients of the packages expressed awe and appreciation for the thoughtfulness and kindness of the individuals and businesses who came together to make their Christmas brighter.

The Community Lions would not have been able to provide this much needed help without the support of the Elk Point Lions, Elks, and Royal Purple; Elk Point Elementary School, Elk Point Community Choir, and St. Michael's Church; CNRL, Windsor Salt, Wanda Lynn's Body Shoppe, Lakeland Realty, Rona, Enbridge, Hahn Welding, JPD Enterprises, Jonny's Electrical, ATB, Servus Credit Union, E-Can, and Dr. Oyebode; Cornerstone Co-op; Elk Point and District Further Ed; Elk Point 4-H Beef Club.

There's a special place in Lions' hearts for those creative crafters who whipped up scarves, mitts and toques; the volunteer sorters and wrappers who gave their evenings and weekends to lighten the load; and everybody who donated to the Christmas Card on the bulletin board by the post office, the Santas boxes that were around town, and the Hunger Bags. It's clear that the spirit of giving is alive and well this Christmas!

The reason for the season

PASTOR JIM MACLELLAN
Elk Point Baptist Church

"C" is for the Christ-child, born upon this day . . ." So goes the song written by Jenny Lou Carson and Eddy Arnold nearly 70 years ago. The message of the song is summed up in the words, "that's why there's a Christmas Day." The opposite narrative is frightening. What a different world it would be if there were no Christmas.

If there were no Jesus, there would be no liberation from sin, which is the cause of all sorrow and pain. It is the cause of the great separation between people and the God who made them. "And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21, NLT).

If there were no Bethlehem, there would be no Calvary. ""For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16, NLT).

If there were no Christ, there would be no arbitrator between God and humanity. "For, there is one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus." (1 Timothy 2:5, NLT)

So, the banners are right: "He is the reason for the season." What will your CHRISTmas be like this year? The holidays are but a few. The presents will someday break, get old and be forgotten. The big dinner will prompt further resolutions to diet. But to those who by faith, but their trust in Jesus Christ, they alone are promised eternal life – life without end. Jesus said, ". . . I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10b, NIV).

On behalf of Elk Point Baptist Church, we invite you to "come and adore Him". "For a child is born to us, a son is given to us . . ." (Isaiah 9:6a, NLT). On Christmas Eve at 7:00 p.m. we invite you to gather with us as we worship Christ, the Lord. Merry Christmas!

May the Spirit of the Holidays
be in your hearts with your family & friends.

MERRY CHRISTMAS
JOYEUX NOËL
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To all of our friends, neighbors and customers, we hope your holiday season is merry, bright and filled with community connection. Best wishes to you and yours!

Elk Point REVIEW
WARMEST WISHES TO OUR READERS!
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Community Choir

(Continued from Front Page)

An arrangement by Mueller combining two Christmas numbers, 'Child of the Poor' and 'What Child is This?' was followed by the traditional carol, 'In Dulci Jubilo' and a slow-paced 'Lullaby for a King.' Soloist Barb Buryn, Dixie Coleman with the shakers and Kelsey Taylor on hand drum were featured in 'Have you Seen the Newborn King?' before the choir wound up the first set with 'Remembering Decembers.'

The women of the choir performed a traditional Welsh lullaby, 'Snow is Falling,' gentle as a snowflake, before they turned over the spotlight to the men, who added the sibilance of kazoos to their 'Parade of the Wooden Soldiers.'

Two traditional numbers, 'Dona Nobis Pacem' and 'The First Noel' were combined in the 'Noel Peace Canon' by the entire choir, who continued on with a vintage number by the Christy Minstrels, 'Green, Green', the traditional spiritual, "Like a River in My Soul' and 'Now is the Time,' an uplifting number that came out of a songwriting workshop at a children's choir festival.

The choir wound up the evening with former choir members in the audience invited to join them on stage for 'Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)'.

In his closing remarks, Mueller said that a choir "does two things – learns a song and performs it, adding a lot of subtle elements. There's an unspoken contract between singers and their audience, and I trust that we delivered on our part."

The Community Choir's 2019 dinner theatre presentation, 'Tons of Money', is slated for March 15, 16, 22 and 23.

NEW ADDITIONS to the traditional Christmas concert this year were the Rusty Musicians (above, left to right: Udo Mueller,Ken Frost, Jeff Gate, David Holmberg, Natalie Wild, Dorothy Wuola, Kaitlin Tazzer and Sheila Hatch, who provided some very fine music at the beginning of the show.

MORE MUSIC came from another instrumental first for the choir: the kazoos played by the men in their performance of 'Parade of the Wooden Soldiers.'

MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR
All the best for 2019!
Have a great holiday with your Loved Ones.

Kevin Wirsta & Family
County of St. Paul #19
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'Tis the time for family and friends!
Town of Elk Point
Mayor,
Council and Staff
ELK POINT

'Tis the season to say thanks to all of the folks who have made our 2018 so memorable. We hope this holiday season brings you as much joy as you've brought to us this year!
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HO-HO-HO
HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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All the best in 2019!

TML?

Atoms get Provincial Finals in their stocking

doug BASSETT
Review Sports

Christmas came early for the Atom Avalanche, arriving this past Friday afternoon with the news coming out of the Hockey Alberta headquarters in Red Deer that Elk Point Minor Hockey has been awarded the Atom D Provincial Finals Tournament from March 14 to the 17, 2019. This is the third provincial final we have hosted in as many years, doing the Midget finals in 2017, the Bantam finals last March and now the Atoms. I think that must tell you something about the great volunteers we have here and the feedback from participants about the quality of the tournaments we have hosted. Otherwise, we wouldn't even be considered year after year.

The Atom team players themselves were obviously just a little excited about the news and showed it this past weekend, winning a home and home series over the Cold Lake Ice, winning 9 to 3 on Saturday up in Cold Lake and a big 10 to 4 score on Sunday here at home. Madden 'Mad Dog; Flamand putting the bite, like a vice, on the Ice with five goals and two assists on Saturday. Kaysen 'Dynamite' DeMossiac, Braylee 'Little Willy' Lesyk, Raif 'Rug Rat' Evans Anderson and 'Without a Trace' Morgan all with one goal each.

On Sunday here at home the 'Mad Dog' was chewing it up again with four more goals and one assist. Evett 'Snoop Dog' Smereka was off his chain too, scoring two goals and adding two assists, 'Snoop Dog' going in all alone on the breakaway aiming for the top shelf on one of his goals. 'Dynamite' blasting in two goals, Brendan 'Buzzsaw' Kadutski, who happens to be celebrating his ninth birthday today, pounding a one timer into the webbing. He was in the perfect spot to score, out front, stick on the ice, taking one off the back wall from 'Without a Trace' Morgan. 'Without a Trace' had two assists, including the one that ricocheted off the back wall. Riley 'the Coyote' Bourne, watching that play develop, did exactly the same thing, getting in a great position to score, taking one off the back wall too. He also added an assist. 'Little Willy' not sitting back while killing a penalty, going coast-to-coast, scoring one all alone while the team was short handed. 'Boe Dog' St. George brought in the largest number of fans through the gate. And they spent lots at the concession after they won the 50/50 in this game. He's on the game sheet with an assist and two trips over to the sin bin. The Atoms coaching staff, I'm sure, will be searching for some tougher competition and will be working on the fine tuning their PP and PK in the next few months as they prepare to host the Provincial Finals.

The little Micro Novice Avs hosted Bonnyville on Saturday morning at 8:30 am. Lennox 'All Out' St. Arnault with some strong skating and stickhandling skills finding the cage with two goals. "Clear the Track, here comes Shack!" Stetson 'Shack' Reynolds is one of the more aggressive and focused players on the ice, he was going strong both ways and had an assist. 'Tornado' Aarbo, 'Mount Everett' Hahn and 'General Lee' Barstad with assists too. Hudson 'the Roadster' Krankowsky playing on defense with some really good shot blocking looked a lot like his uncle Jordan when he was a little guy. He did a really good job in net too, considering they don't have a goalie stick or big pads. Zander 'Zorro' Goertzen and Jaydn 'Spectacular' Sakowsky both doing a bang up job when it was their turn in net.

Our Novice team travelled to Glendon on Saturday, playing in a one day, nine-team tournament. Every team played one 20 minute half ice period back to back against each other. Even though they don't keep score at the Novice level anymore the Avalanche won seven out of eight games. Some little birdie told me. Who are they trying to kid? We all know the score! But the kids don't care...they just want to have fun, coaches and parents maybe not so much!!

The Peewee Avalanche filled the house on a rare Tuesday night game against Lac La Biche. The game, originally scheduled for the weekend before Christmas, was moved by mutual agreement. The Clippers are one of the better teams in the league but our guys managed to skate with them throughout the game, losing by a close 4 to 2. Could have been even closer, but one of those goals was an empty netter when the Avalanche pulled the goalie for the extra attacker in the final minute. The idea and timing was great, but sometimes, as was the case in this one, it will backfire. A bouncing puck over the last man back and it's game over. A strong game for Seth 'Motor Man' Morton who scored the first goal. He was strong on the puck all night and skating hard in this one. Vaughn 'the Vulture' Ockerman scoring the second goal on the power play. Both goals assisted by 'Top Gunner' Crawford.

On Saturday at home, Avalanche goalie 'Kid Kade' Fontaine played superb, shutting the door on St. Paul, the Avalanche winning this one 2 to 0. Brendon 'Blueline' Haesch playing up on the forward line with the first goal assisted by the 'Vulture' and 'Top Gunner'. Kaleb 'Formula One' Flamand with the second one on a wide open breakaway, going upstairs on the Canadiens' goalie. 'Formula One' has a great set of wheels, especially when he kicks it into overdrive. He is also one of the best penalty killers on the team, known for blocking shots and forechecking. 'Blueline' and Timmy 'the Freight Train' Cardinal assisting on the play. The 'Freight Train' with his size does a great job of screening the goalie and is also a very smart player knowing all the rules of the game better than I do some of the time! 'Bo Diddly' Fontaine was another player who worked really hard in this game and killed a few penalties as well as forechecking and back checking and working the corners.

Coaching can be stressful at times and I'm sure the Midget boys gave their coaching staff a few grey hairs on Friday night. On the road up in Boyle they took a huge 7 to 4 lead after 40 minutes. Then they decided to sit back for a while in the third period as the Blazers caught up and actually took a 8 to 7 lead. Fortunately for the Avalanche, they woke up just in time, scored a couple of goals and won the game 9 to 8. Otherwise it might have been a very quiet ride home or maybe not with mom and dad! A hat trick for Nick 'Sparky' Anderson including the game-winning goal. Jaden 'Jet Stream' Van Maarion and Charlie 'Chuckles' Rogal with two goals each. Chase 'Rink Rat' Dorey and Tyler Jamieson with one goal each. Dustyn 'Dusty' Pankiw with a couple of assists, Jace 'the Stafford Streak', 'King Cole' Bendixen, Dallas 'Cowboy' Bristow and Hayden 'Hot Wheels' Ludlage all with a helper each.

On Saturday at home, our old friends the Kitscoty Pitbulls came a howling, looking to grab a bone and head home. The Avalanche with other plans sending them home with their tails between their legs., but not until after a pretty intense game.

(Continued on Page 11)

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Announcements

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IN LOVING MEMORY
MARSHALL EUGENE MOROZIUK
FEB. 6, 1954 - DEC. 19, 2012

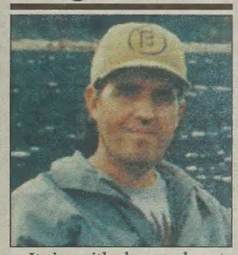
Everytime we remember his laughter and smile or recall his readiness to help us and help others,

Everytime we find ourselves doing or saying something he taught us.

Everytime we think or speak of him, it brings Marshall closer to our hearts.

Gone, but NEVER FORGOTTEN!
Love Agnes;
Robyn, Myrna & Family;
Shaun, Sheryl & Family;
Gladys, Jack & Family

PRICE, Douglas Arnold



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Douglas Arnold Price of Port Alberni, B.C. on December 11, 2018 at the age of 52 years. A beloved son of Joseph Arnold Price and dear friend Feona Kutash. He is also survived by his step brother Richard (Linda) Fortin, step sister Debbie (Wayne) Hymanyk, step sister Sharon (Tony) Wanchuk; along with numerous relatives and many friends. Doug was predeceased by his mother Diane and step father Bernie, step sister Linda (Allan) Bouchard, step mother Hilda Price, maternal grandparents Eugene and Pearl Vallee, paternal grandparents Joseph and Victoria Price.

Doug was a selfless person that gave of his heart and help to many. He was an avid and knowledgeable fisherman. He had many friends and along with an unmatched sense of humour, was well loved. Cremation has taken place, and a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. If desired, donations may be made in Doug's memory to the "Ty Watson House, Alberni Valley Hospice Society, 3088-3rd Ave.,Port Alberni, B.C.,V9Y 2A5."

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Friday shutout for Elks

VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Elk Point Elks goalie John Steinhauer recorded his first shutout of the season on Friday, when the Neilburg Monarchs came to town and went home with a 7-0 loss, with their netminder peppered with no less than 69 shots.

The first period put the Elks ahead by a single goal, Christian Nypower scoring unassisted in his first of three for the evening. In the second, the Elks kept the Monarchs too busy to shoot, as Nypower added one more to the score, assisted by Kam Ballas and Tristan Kean, Scott Ward scored a single assisted by Dillon Kalinski and Nypower, and Nicolas Trufal netted a pair, assisted by Kam Ballas in the first and Ryley Wozniak in the second.

Kean scored the first goal of the third period off assists by Nypower and Ward, before Nypower wrapped up the scoring for the evening, assisted by Trufal.

The skate was on the other foot on Saturday, in the last game before the holiday season, as the Elks took a long road trip to meet the Meadow Lake Broncos and came up short. In a hard fought battle, they rang the puck off the goal posts multiple times, had a disallowed goal and just couldn't get the puck past the Broncos net minder. The Broncos went on to defeat the Elks 5-0, and according to Elks management, "it was a great effort by the boys, we just didn't get any bounces our way!"

The Elks now get a mid-season break until Saturday, Jan. 5, when they travel to Kitscoty to meet the Monarchs. Their next home game is Saturday, Jan. 12, when Kitscoty makes a return visit.

Hockey highlights

(Continued from Page 10)

The first two periods may have been the best midget game we have seen this year. Lots of speed, nice passing and shots, both teams laying out heavy clean hits and both goalies doing a tremendous job of keeping the puck out. The only goals scored by both teams were all on the power play in the first 40 minutes, the Avalanche leading by 2 to 1 at that point. Early in third period, the Avalanche would score another on the power play before the floodgates would open up, as well as the penalty box, it was getting very crowded in the third period. The final 6 to 1 for the Avalanche. 'Jet Stream' and 'Hot Wheels' with two goals and two assists each. 'Sparky' with a goal and two assists. 'Rink Rat' adding one goal. 'Lightning Liam' Ludlage with two assists. 'King Cole', 'Dusty' and Evan 'Batman' Ockerman with one assist each. Colton 'Colt 45' Van Maarion between the pipes facing 29 shots and many of them deflections in front, played outstanding standing on his head.

In out-of-town news: Over in the AA Peewee league, playing for the Lakeland team, Cash 'Paycheque' Capjack scored two goals and had one assist. 'King Kong Konnor' Poitras adding an assist in a huge 9 to 4 win over the strong team from Lloydminster. Former Storm player Jadey 'the Lady' Capjack who now plays for the Lakeland Female Bantam team was one of three girls selected off her team to play in a fundraiser in Cold Lake on the weekend organized by four-time Olympic gold medalist Hailey Wickinheiser. Also in the Female Midget league, the speedy Jenna 'Precious' Poitras playing for the Dewberry Wild played her best two games of the year, losing to St. Paul 1 to 0 on Friday night and coming home with a four-all tie up in Lac La Biche. Former Storm player Ashley 'the Hacksaw' Hunter scoring one up in Lac La Biche.

And now for the K.A. Campbell of the week. "Be Good… because Santa is watching!' - Doug the 'Sportshound' Bassett.

Safe holidays

(Continued from Page 4)

Make sure that button batteries (often found in musical greeting cards, small electronic devices, children's books and flashing jewellery) stay securely in the products. Look for products with battery compartments that prevent easy access. Button batteries are small enough to be swallowed and can cause serious internal injuries in as little as two hours.

Supervise children at play and teach them to use their new toys safely.

Promptly remove and discard all toy packaging like plastic bags, plastic wrap, foam, staples, ties and protective film. A child can suffocate or choke on some of these items.

COUNTY OF ST. PAUL NO. 19

HIGHLIGHTS

December 11, 2018 Council Meeting

2019 Strategic Plans – The County of St. Paul Strategic Plans have taken on a new look. Council approved an overarching plan as well as Operational Plans for Administration, FCSS, Community Services, Public Works and Communications. The overarching plan outlines the strategies each department will focus on in 2019 and the operations plans outlines how the County will achieve the strategies. The Strategic Plans can be viewed on the County website under Governance.

Bylaws – Council gave first reading to Bylaw 2018-28, which is a Borrowing Bylaw for $2,641,256 for grading and base-paving Township Road 582 North of the Town of St. Paul from Highway 881 to 57th Street in the Town of St. Paul. The County has applied for a grant jointly with the Town of St. Paul to fund approximate 50% of the cost of regrading and paving Township Road 582 as well as 900 meters of 57th Street in the Town. The debenture will be used to pay for the unfunded portion of the County's stretch of the project.

Council also approved the Cannabis Consumption Bylaw imposing additional restrictions on cannabis consumption in Public Places as well as a Bylaw Enforcement Officer Bylaw to establish power and duties of a bylaw enforcement officer. The Non-Profit Community Organizations Tax Exemption Bylaw was updated to include Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 0829109 owned by the Animal Shelter and Adoption Society for St. Paul and Area to be exempted from Municipal Taxation.

The Inter-Municipal Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Bylaw along with the Joint Agreement between the Town of St. Paul, Town of Elk Point and Summer Village of Horseshoe Bay were approved. The ISDAB will hear subdivision and/or development appeals within the boundaries of the four municipalities. The County is still looking for two individuals to serve as members-at-large on the Inter-Municipal SDAB. Interested residents should submit their interest via email to pcorbiere@county.stpaul.ab.ca by January 7, 2019.

The Utility Bylaw was updated to reflect the new rates for changes in the cost of water by the Water Commissions as well as new rates for the Septic Haulers and the Waste Water Transfer Station. The Fee Schedule Bylaw was updated to reflect changes effective January 1, 2019.

Updated bylaws can be viewed in their entirety on the County website.

Agreement with Enterprise – The County will be leasing five light duty trucks from Enterprise Fleet Management instead of making a capital purchase, which will lower the 2019 budget by approximately $134,300. Enterprise Fleet Management specializes in managing the optimal time for organizations to replace vehicles.

Completion of water transmission line to Mallaig – The waterline from Ashmont to Mallaig is now complete with the source of water coming from EPCOR in Edmonton. The waterline and facilities have been commissioned and new water has been flowing for a few weeks.

Council Remuneration and Subsistence – Effective January 1, Council has moved away from flat rates for lodging and meals and instead will be reimbursed based on actual lodging costs or set costs for a meal that has been paid for out of pocket. Council also approved a 10% increase for base Salary, base Committee Meeting Rate and Out of County meeting rates which will also be implemented January 1. This increase is in response to the Federal Government removing the one-third tax exemption from municipal elected officials coming into effect January 1, 2019. With the 10% increase in their compensation, Councilors net pay will be comparable to previous years. The updated Council Remuneration Policy indicates that council expenses will be published monthly on the County's website.

2017 Interim Municipal Budget – As per section 242(2) of the MGA, Council approved the 2018 Interim Operating and Capital Budget:

Capital & Operating Revenues	$37,120,463
Debenture & Funding From Restricted Surplus	$ 4,441,256
Operating Expenditures	$29,348,117
Replacement Reserve	$ 139,800
Debenture Repayment	$ 773,359
Capital Expenditures	$11,201,152
Surplus	$ 99,921

Funding Support:

- $500 – FG Miller High School Boys Provincial Volleyball
- $500 – Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charity Fundraiser
- $1,000 – Regional High School Boys Provincial Volleyball and Football
- $1,000 – 2019 MS Society Annual Walk
- $1,500 – St. Paul 4-H Light Horse Club
- $2,000 – Elk Point Skating Club
- $5,500 – St. Paul Municipal Seed Cleaning Association
- $8,000 – Elk Point Regional Allied Arts
- $15,000 – CG Baker Riding Arena
- $18,000 – Elk Point Curling Club
- $30,000 – AG Ross Arena
- $110,630 MSI Operational Funding distributed to Ag Societies and Community Halls throughout the Municipality

Christmas Hours – The County Office and Public Works Shop will close from December 24 to January 1 inclusive.

For more information contact
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At 780-645-3301, ext 208

County holds off on appointment to EDC

MEREDITH KERR
Review Contributor

The County of St. Paul council tabled a request to appoint a member to the Town of Elk Point's economic development committee during its Dec. 11 meeting. The Town of Elk Point passed a bylaw governing the new committee at its most recent council meeting, a move which seemed to take the county by surprise.

According to the bylaw, the committee will explore short and long-term development strategies, promote retention and development of infrastructure, and promote retention and expansion of existing businesses and new business and industry. The bylaw states the committee will include a member from the County of St. Paul council, in addition to seven members at large and a member of Elk Point town council.

"How can one municipality include another municipality in their bylaw without talking to that municipality before passing that bylaw?" asked Coun. Maxine Fodness.

The bylaw is an updated version of one passed in March 2012, but the committee, with former Coun. Dwight Dach as the county's representative, has not been active in the past few years.

According to CAO Sheila Kitz and Reeve Steve Upham, no mention of the new committee or the county's involvement in it was made at a meeting between the two municipalities on Dec. 6th. That meeting was regarding the development of a regional economic strategy as the county was successful in its application for a CARES grant of $50,000.

Council was uncomfortable appointing a member to the new committee without further discussion with Elk Point. Coun. Cliff Martin made the motion to table the request to the next regular meeting.

Stop sign discussed

The installation of a new stop sign with flashing lights at the intersection of Murphy Road and Hwy 646 is on hold after a conversation with Alberta Transportation.

County of St. Paul Director of Public Works Mark Chileen reported the intersection is within the provincial right of way and so he approached the department of transportation before ordering the sign.

"He said that they had rejected that in the past and they would reject it again. But if I were to put it up he would turn a blind eye to it. However, if we installed it, we are also responsible for upkeep on it and any other liability associated with it," said Chileen during the Dec. 11 County of St. Paul council meeting.

Coun. Laurent Amyotte asked what the criteria to have a blinking stop sign are.

Chileen said it was "basically how many incidents happen at that intersection."

"I have to say he's (Alberta Transportation) full of caca. Because look at Krider Road and 646, no incidents and what did they put there? They just put that up last year," said Darryl Younghans.

Reeve Steve Upham compared the current situation to when the county had lobbied for a reduced speed limit on Highway 28 from the Ashmont School intersection to past the S-curve."We spent years beating that drum," said Upham.

"I'd like more information on that (criteria) because I think he's full of whatever word I used last time," said Younghans, in response.

Council voted to table the discussion to a later date when more information can be provided.

Town council

(Continued from Page 3)

It was noted that the town has received only one of these appeals in the past 10 years, with similar statistics for the other jurisdictions, but it is required to have such a board in place. Those appointed to the town's current development appeal board will sit on the joint board.

MSI Capital

A total of $444,871 in MSI capital funding and $143,972 from the town's operating budget was paid to Nikiforuk Construction for water line replacement on Circle Drive and 52 Street in 2017, which was contrary to a motion made at that time which indicated only MSI capital funding for that year and the three subsequent years was to be used for the project. Because of that, the town will have some of the 2019 MSI capital to put toward waterline replacement on Ravine Drive.

Municipal law seminar

CAO Gowzdz was given the go-ahead to register for an upcoming municipal law seminar in Edmonton in February.

Utility rates

The Town of Elk Point's utility rates will remain at 2018 levels, with $60 basic water, $17 basic sewer, $15 garbage fee and $7 for water meter replacement, plus $4 per cubic meter for water use over 14 cubic meters. The water replacement fee will go toward installing electronic heads on water meters to enable quicker and more accurate meter readings.

Tree of Hope

Council agreed to once again donate $50 to the Tree of Hope Campaign, which supports the Palliative Care room in the Elk Point Healthcare Centre.

ATCO broadband

Council directed the administration to invited ATCO Electric to the Feb. 25 regular meeting for a presentation on Broadband service.

Foster a Pet Policy

A pet fostering policy put forward by bylaw enforcement officer Krysten Burton and the CAO was approved.

New use for old reservoir

A joint delegation from the Elk Point Golf and Country Club and Elk Point and District Lions Club met with council in a closed session to propose a new use for the old water reservoir, which has a capacity of 50 million gallons and is currently empty. The two clubs offered to fill it, with the golf club using it to water their greens and to keep the water levels topped up, and the Lions to stock it with fish for a public fish pond that they would look after. The clubs asked for the use of the town's electric pumps, to which council agreed, along with agreeing to lease the reservoir to the clubs and provide insurance on the existing infrastructure. The golf club has a water diversion permit in place until 2028.

Also in the closed session, council discussed a potential development and renewal of real estate agreements for town-owned land. Following the closed session, they passed motions to enter into a development agreement and to continue listing the property for sale with local realtors.